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Prime Minister Inspects Kabul–Jalalabad Highway Second Lane Construction

KABUL: Mullah Mohammad Hassan Akhund, the Prime Minister of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, conducted an on-site inspection of the ongoing construction work on the second lane of the Kabul–Jalalabad Highway on Friday morning. The visit reflects the government's continued focus on major national infrastructure projects that are considered vital for economic development and connectivity across the country, Arg said in a statement.
During the inspection, the relevant officials briefed the Prime Minister on the current progress of the project, its technical challenges, and the expected timeline for completion. Engineers and project managers also provided detailed updates regarding construction activities taking place in different sections of the highway expansion.
The Prime Minister praised the efforts of the Ministry of Public Works, engineers, and private contracting companies involved in the project.
He emphasized the importance of completing the project on time and with high-quality standards, stating that such infrastructure developments are essential for improving transportation, trade, and economic stability.
Mullah Hassan Akhund further added that once completed, the second lane of the Kabul–Jalalabad Highway will significantly reduce travel difficulties, improve transit efficiency, and enhance economic activity in the surrounding regions, making it one of the most important transport corridors in the country.
The Kabul Times

Beradar, Iranian President Discusses Expanding Bilateral Relations in Tehran

KABUL: Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs of the Islamic Emirate, Mullah Abdul Ghani Beradar, met with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian in Tehran on Friday, where both sides discussed strengthening bilateral relations and expanding cooperation across multiple sectors.
Mullah Beradar expressed condolences to the Iranian government and people over the reported killing of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, describing it as a significant loss for the country, according to a statement from the Office of the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs.
He also reiterated Afghanistan's position on regional developments, emphasizing diplomatic consistency.
The Deputy PM highlighted the shared interests and commonalities between Afghanistan and Iran, stating that both countries have significant opportunities for cooperation in trade, transit, infrastructure, and economic development. See P4

Administrative Commission Reviews Government Financial and Institutional Issues

KABUL: The meeting of the Administrative Commission was held under the leadership of Deputy Prime Minister for Administrative Affairs, Mawlawi Abdul Salam Hanafi, focusing on governance, financial institutions, and administrative reforms, Arg said in a statement on Friday.
At the beginning of the session, the committees presented detailed reports on their recent activities and progress regarding previously assigned responsibilities, the statement said.
Key institutional matters related to the Ministry of Finance, the national electricity company Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat, and the National Statistics and Information Authority were discussed in the meeting, the statement said, adding that each topic was examined in detail to assess performance, challenges, and required reforms. After extensive discussions, the commission adopted several decisions aimed at improving efficiency and strengthening coordination between relevant institutions.
At the conclusion of the meeting, additional agenda items were referred to specialized committees for further technical review and detailed evaluation, ensuring that future decisions are based on comprehensive analysis and expert recommendations.
The Kabul Times

Islamic Emirate Condemns Deadly Attack on Civilian Café in Damascus

KABUL: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Emirate strongly condemned a deadly attack on a civilian café in Damascus, the capital of Syria, which resulted in multiple deaths and injuries.
In a statement the other day, the ministry described the incident as a serious violation of human and humanitarian values. The ministry stressed that targeting civilians contradicts Islamic teachings and international humanitarian principles and emphasized that such attacks pose a major threat to peace, security, and stability in Syria and the wider region.
Reports indicate that the explosion at the café resulted in at least nine fatalities and left around twenty others injured. Emergency services in Damascus reportedly responded to the scene shortly after the blast.
The Afghan Foreign Ministry extended condolences to the families of the victims and expressed solidarity with the people of Syria during this difficult time, and called for efforts to prevent further violence against civilians. The statement reiterated that stability in conflict-affected regions requires respect for civilian life and adherence to international norms, warning that continued attacks could further destabilize the region.
The Kabul Times

Mujahid Accuses UNAMA of Weak Role, Demands Active Mediation in Afghanistan-International Relations

KABUL – The spokesperson of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, Zabihullah Mujahid, has strongly criticized the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), stating that the mission has not fulfilled its core responsibilities over the past five years.
Speaking in an interview with TOLOnews, Mujahid said UNAMA was originally established to serve as a constructive bridge between Afghanistan and the international community.
He argued that the mission has instead focused on secondary issues and has failed to play an effective mediating role, particularly between Afghanistan and Western countries.
Mujahid emphasized that UNAMA's primary responsibility should be to facilitate dialogue, reduce political distance, and strengthen diplomatic engagement between Afghanistan, the United Nations, and member states.
He stated that the lack of meaningful progress in this regard has weakened trust and limited cooperation.
The spokesman further expressed hope that during the coming year, UNAMA would intensify its efforts to address outstanding political and diplomatic challenges.
According to him, constructive engagement is essential for improving Afghanistan's relations with the international community.
His comments come shortly after the United Nations Security Council extended UNAMA's mandate for another year, while discussions continue regarding the appointment of a new head of the mission.
Russia has reportedly called for consultation with the Islamic Emirate on the selection process, highlighting ongoing differences among international stakeholders.
Mujahid's remarks reflect growing official dissatisfaction with the UN's political and diplomatic role in Afghanistan.
The Kabul Times

Muttaqi Meets Iranian Foreign Minister in Tehran to Discuss Bilateral Relations

KABUL: The country's Foreign Minister, Mawlavi Amir Khan Muttaqi, in a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi in Tehran, discussed strengthening diplomatic ties and expanding cooperation between the two neighboring countries.
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement on Friday that the two sides discussed a wide range of issues, including political relations, economic cooperation, and regional developments affecting both countries. Muttaqi emphasized that Afghanistan and Iran share significant common interests across multiple sectors and highlighted the importance of expanding cooperation in trade, transit, and regional stability.
He described the relationship as historically rooted and strategically important.
The Iranian Foreign Minister, welcomed Afghanistan's current diplomatic approach and described bilateral relations as positive and steadily expanding.
He expressed Iran's interest in further strengthening cooperation in various fields.
Both sides agreed on the importance of continued dialogue and practical cooperation to enhance regional stability and mutual development. **The Kabul Times**

Iranian Trade Delegation in Kabul to Boost Economic Cooperation

KABUL: A high-level delegation from the Iran–Afghanistan Joint Chamber of Commerce has arrived in Kabul with the aim of strengthening economic, trade, and investment relations between the two neighboring countries, the Kabul-based Iranian Embassy said in a statement the other day. The visit is part of ongoing efforts to expand bilateral economic cooperation, the statement said, adding that the delegation participated in the Fifth International Kabul Industry and Mining Week Exhibition, one of the major economic events in Afghanistan that brought together domestic and international investors.
The delegation is expected to engage with Afghan business leaders, government officials, and private sector representatives during the exhibition, and discuss on xpanding trade opportunities, increasing investment cooperation, and identifying joint economic projects.
In addition to participating in the exhibition, the visiting delegation will hold a series of specialized meetings with Afghan authorities.
Officials from both sides have expressed optimism that the visit will help strengthen economic ties and create new opportunities for collaboration, particularly in areas that benefit both countries' long-term economic development.
The Kabul Times

Over 580 Residential Plots Distributed to Returning Families in 7 Provinces

KABUL: Hamdullah Fitrat, the Deputy Spokesman of the Islamic Emirate, said in a statement on Friday that 589 residential plots were distributed to returning Afghan refugees across seven provinces.
He stated that the plots were allocated in the provinces of Nangarhar, Farah, Helmand, Faryab, Balkh, Samangan, and Nimroz, targeting families who have recently returned to Afghanistan.
Fitrat explained that the initiative aims to support reintegration and provide permanent housing solutions for returnees who often face challenges in rebuilding their lives after returning from abroad.
According to official figures, the total number of residential plots distributed has now reached 55,874 nationwide, reflecting the government's ongoing efforts to manage returnee resettlement.
Authorities emphasized that the program is part of broader national efforts to support displaced families and improve living conditions for vulnerable populations across the country.
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Food for thought

Today's Generation Guarantees Our Bright Future

UNAMA's Missed Opportunities in Afghanistan

Over the past five years, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) has faced mounting criticism for failing to fulfill its central mission.

It failed to act as a constructive bridge between Afghanistan and the international community. While the mission has engaged in numerous activities, its focus has often drifted toward secondary issues, leaving the core challenge of fostering diplomatic understanding and cooperation largely unmet.

Afghanistan's relationship with the world remains strained, particularly with Western nations and the United Nations itself as they are yet to realize the realities of the country through Afghanistan-based UN failed mission. In this context, UNAMA's role should have been pivotal. By reflecting the realities on the ground and facilitating dialogue, the mission could have helped reduce mistrust and opened pathways for meaningful engagement. Instead, its limited effectiveness has widened the gap between Afghanistan and the international community at a time when global integration is essential for stability and development.

The extension of UNAMA's mandate for another year underscores the international community's recognition of Afghanistan's importance. Yet, the absence of a new mission chief highlights the lack of consensus among major powers. This delay not only hampers UNAMA's ability to function effectively but also signals the competing interests that often overshadow Afghanistan's urgent needs. Russia's insistence that Afghanistan's government should have a role in the appointment process reflects a broader debate and should UNAMA operate as a neutral mediator, or should it reflect the realities of Afghanistan under the Islamic system.

The answer lies in balance. UNAMA must remain impartial, but impartiality does not mean detachment. By acknowledging Afghanistan's perspectives and reflecting its realities, the mission can build trust and credibility. At the same time, it must encourage Afghanistan to engage constructively with the international community, ensuring that dialogue is not one-sided but genuinely reciprocal.

The coming year offers UNAMA an opportunity to recalibrate. Rather than focusing on peripheral matters, the mission should prioritize its fundamental responsibility which is strengthening Afghanistan's diplomatic ties and fostering cooperation. This requires transparent communication, active mediation, and a willingness to confront difficult issues head-on. Only by doing so can UNAMA transform from a passive observer into an active facilitator of progress.

Afghanistan's future depends not only on its internal stability but also on its ability to connect with the world. UNAMA, if it embraces its true mission, can play a decisive role in bridging divides and laying the groundwork for a more inclusive and cooperative international relationship. The stakes are high, and the time for renewed commitment is now.

Urban Sanitation: A Silent Crisis and a Growing Hope for Public Health in Afghanistan

By: Eng. Akhter Muhammad Sadiq

Across Afghanistan's rapidly expanding cities, an invisible crisis continues to affect the health, dignity, and daily life of millions of people. While urban areas grow in size and population, essential sanitation services have often not developed at the same pace. This imbalance has created a serious but silent public health challenge, especially in densely populated neighborhoods.

Urban sanitation refers to the safe collection, transportation, treatment, and disposal of human waste and wastewater. When these systems are weak or absent, the impact goes beyond environmental pollution, it directly affects drinking water sources and increases the risk of disease among urban populations.

In cities such as Kabul, Jalalabad, Kandahar, and Herat, sanitation infrastructure has not kept pace with rapid urban growth. Many households still depend on septic tanks, pit latrines, or unregulated disposal systems. In densely populated areas, these systems are often poorly designed or poorly maintained, leading to leakage and contamination of groundwater resources.

As a result, waterborne diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, and hepatitis A remain common public health concerns. Children are particularly vulnerable due to repeated exposure to unsafe water and poor hygiene conditions, which can lead to malnutrition and long-term health impacts.

Environmental conditions are also severely affected. Wastewater is frequently discharged into open drains, vacant land, or nearby rivers without treatment. During heavy rains, blocked drainage systems cause urban flooding, spreading contaminated water into streets and homes, and further worsening public health risks.

One of the most critical challenges remains the lack of proper wastewater treatment facilities. In most Afghan cities, wastewater is discharged directly into the environment without treatment, allowing pollutants to contaminate soil and groundwater that many families rely on for drinking water.

Despite these challenges, there is growing hope for the future of urban sanitation in Afghanistan.

A key example is the ongoing development of the Kabul New City project in Dehsabz, Kabul, where the first phase is currently under construction. This project represents a major step toward modern urban planning in Afghanistan. Unlike older parts of the city, Kabul New City is designed with integrated infrastructure systems in mind, including modern sewerage networks, safe water supply

See P4

Greenhouse Farming Helps Overcome Key Agricultural Challenges in Uruzgan

By: Ehsanullah Wolasmal

Agriculture is considered a fundamental pillar for strengthening Afghanistan's economy and is an important source of livelihood and income for most of the country's population. In recent years, climate change, drought, water shortages, and sudden seasonal changes have had a profound impact on agricultural production. As a result, people have been forced to adopt various methods to cope with these changes, one of which is the construction of greenhouses.

Greenhouses are considered an effective and modern method in agriculture, providing the opportunity to produce vegetables and some fruits throughout the year. Greenhouses not only increase farmers' yields but also improve the quality of agricultural products, make plant care easier, and reduce the risk of pests and diseases.

Through these structures, farmers can produce crops without being affected by severe cold, heat, winds, and other natural challenges, and can supply fresh products to the market at the right time.

Currently, in various provinces and agricultural areas of the country, farmers and ordinary people have turned to the construction of greenhouses.

In recent years, this type of greenhouse construction has expanded significantly through the efforts of the government, institutions, and individuals.

A journalist from The Kabul Times visited the vegetable market in Tarinkot city, the capital of Uruzgan province in the southern region, which is designated for the buying and selling of vegetables.

In many shops of this market, locally produced Afghan vegetables can be seen, which are of good quality and affordable in price.

People and shopkeepers say that although the routes to Pakistan remain closed at the moment, the growth of domestic greenhouse farming and government attention to the agricultural sector have brought Afghanistan closer to self-sufficiency.

A farmer from Uruzgan, Akhtar Mohammad, says that greenhouse construction has increased in recent years and has improved the economic situation of farmers. He says that in Uruzgan province, the expansion of greenhouses has enabled farmers to earn a lawful livelihood for their families.

He added, "In the case of cucumbers and other vegetables, they are grown and preserved here. Without these greenhouses, nothing could be produced. Now these greenhouses are very beneficial. When these greenhouses are active, vegetables become cheaper in the city, but when they are not available, everything becomes expensive because they are brought from other provinces." See P4

Heat Waves May Accelerate the Spread of Infectious Diseases

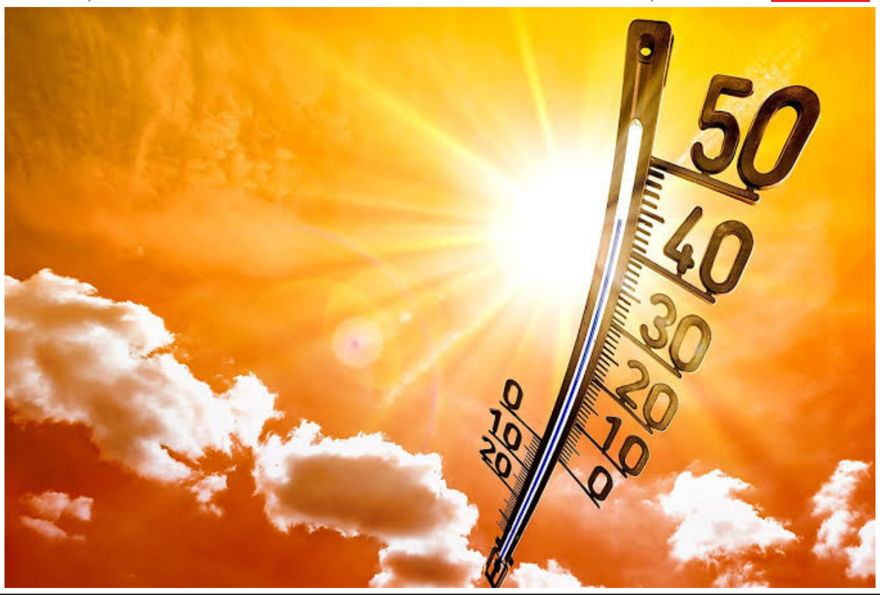
By: Romal Sayedi

In recent years, extraordinary and unprecedented heat waves have frequently swept through the world because of the presence of atmospheric circulation patterns, which significantly enhance human exposure to heat waves. Climate scientists are predicting that 2026 will be the hottest year on record, beating the current record set in 2024. Britain and much of France are reporting the hottest temperatures ever recorded. April 2025 to March 2026 was the warmest twelve-month period in history. Several Australian locations reported temperatures of 50°C. This month temperatures in the Antarctic climbed above 15°C, shattering the previous winter record by two degrees.

Studies show 489,000 heat-related deaths globally each year, with 45 per cent in Asia and 36 per cent in Europe. But the true toll remains unclear, especially for low- and middle-income countries, because most countries lack consistent systems to track heat-related casualties. Vulnerability to heat is shaped by age, health status and other physiological factors, by occupation and other exposure factors, and by socioeconomic factors including housing. The effects of heat may be exacerbated in cities where, despite better access to cooling, dense populations generate urban heat islands, amplifying risks for the elderly, pregnant women, outdoor workers and anyone who can't afford air-conditioning. Around 200 million city-dwellers in more than 350 cities live with summer temperature highs of above 35°C. Without dramatic change, around 970 cities will be at least this hot by 2050, with much higher exposures in Asia, Africa and North America.

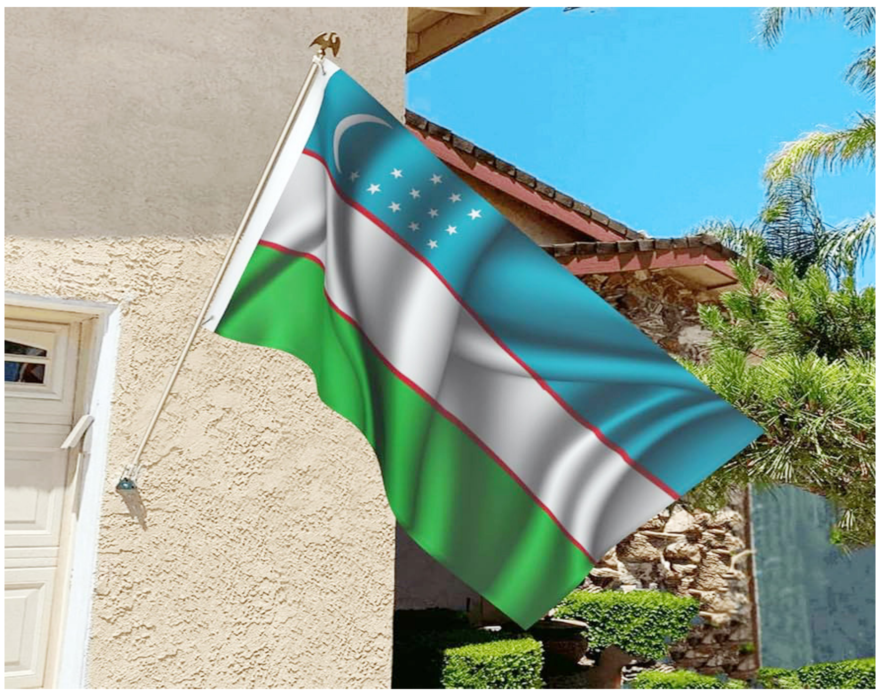
The impact of increased average temperatures extends to animals and the broader environment. They alter the distribution and intensity of pests and diseases, affecting flora, insects, livestock and humans. The spread of many infectious diseases is accelerating, as are the mosquitos and other vectors spreading them. As the weather warms and the heat intensifies in every corner of Afghanistan too, various diseases and illnesses may arise and infect humans. At the peak of heat and cold, various diseases also appear in our country every year and affect our people. The temperature in Afghanistan is on the rise these days, and most of the people complain about the extreme heat and the spread of diseases and illnesses and are having a hard time. Medical experts always advise that in the hot season, various types of microbes arise and interfere in human life more than ever before and infect humans.

In this season, people should be cautious and protect themselves from the dangers of heat and germs caused by it, and pay more attention and effort to keep their environment clean. It is also necessary for the government, particularly the country's Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to pay all-round attention in this regard and work to take all necessary preventive measures and raise awareness, and to try and make efforts in various ways to protect the environment and prevent diseases. The people of Afghanistan often live in places where they do not have access to medical facilities, and from this area, See P4



Uzbekistan as Afghanistan's Bridge to the West

By: Mashal Noori



The recent remarks by Javlon Vakhabov, Deputy Adviser to the President of Uzbekistan and Director of the International Institute for Central Asia, highlight a significant shift in regional diplomacy. His statement that "Uzbekistan considers Afghanistan an integral part of Central Asia" underscores Tashkent's recognition of Afghanistan's role in shaping the future of regional economic and political cooperation. From the perspective of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, this acknowledgment is not only a diplomatic gesture but also an economic opportunity that aligns with the Emirate's policy of strengthening regional integration and reducing isolation.

Afghanistan has long been viewed as a crossroads of trade and culture. The Islamic Emirate's policy emphasizes the country's centrality in connecting South Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East. Uzbekistan's willingness to act as a bridge between Kabul and Western partners provides Afghanistan with a platform to amplify its economic priorities. This includes attracting investment in infrastructure, energy, and transit projects that can transform Afghanistan into a hub of connectivity.

By recognizing Afghanistan's administration in practice, Uzbekistan has taken a pragmatic step that facilitates direct engagement. This recognition allows for smoother coordination in areas such as customs, border management, and trade facilitation. For Afghanistan, these measures are essential to expand exports, reduce dependency on limited markets, and diversify economic partnerships.

Vakhabov's emphasis on dialogue between Afghanistan and Pakistan also carries economic weight. Both countries share vital trade routes, and their cooperation is critical for regional stability. The Islamic Emirate has consistently advocated for peaceful resolution of disputes, understanding that economic growth cannot flourish in an environment of conflict. Uzbekistan's encouragement of dialogue strengthens this policy by promoting a regional framework where disputes are resolved through negotiation rather than confrontation.

For Afghanistan, improved relations with Pakistan mean greater access to ports, smoother transit of goods, and enhanced opportunities for joint ventures. When combined with Uzbekistan's support, this trilateral cooperation can unlock new corridors of trade that benefit the entire region.

The establishment of forums such as the "Strategic Studies Centers and Think Tanks of Afghanistan and Central Asia" reflects the Islamic Emirate's policy of institutionalizing dialogue. These platforms provide opportunities to discuss economic, political, and security issues in a structured manner. For Afghanistan, participation in such initiatives ensures that its voice is heard in shaping regional priorities. It also allows Afghan policymakers to present their economic vision, which includes:

Expanding regional trade through reduced tariffs and simplified customs procedures.

Developing energy projects that connect Afghanistan's resources with Central Asian grids.

Promoting investment in transport infrastructure, including railways and highways linking Kabul with Tashkent and beyond.

These priorities align with Uzbekistan's vision of serving as a bridge to the West, as they create tangible projects that Western partners can support.

Political analysts such as Abdul Jamil Shirani and Abbas Hassanzada have rightly noted that Uzbekistan maintains strong relations with Afghanistan in economy, politics, and security. From the Islamic Emirate's perspective, economic cooperation is the cornerstone of these relations. Uzbekistan's expertise in agriculture, energy, and manufacturing can complement Afghanistan's resources and labor force. Joint projects in electricity transmission, mining, and agricultural processing can generate employment and revenue for both nations.

Moreover, Afghanistan's participation in regional trade initiatives led by Uzbekistan can enhance its access to European and American markets. By positioning itself as a reliable partner in Central Asia, Afghanistan can attract Western investment through Uzbek mediation. This approach reduces political barriers while focusing on shared economic benefits.

The Islamic Emirate's policy emphasizes that economic stability is inseparable from political stability. Uzbekistan's recognition of Afghanistan's role in Central Asia contributes to reducing isolation and fostering trust. By urging Afghanistan and Pakistan to resolve differences through dialogue, Tashkent reinforces the Emirate's vision of peaceful coexistence. Stability in these relations directly translates into secure trade routes, predictable investment climates, and sustainable development.

Javlon Vakhabov's remarks represent more than diplomatic rhetoric; they signal a practical pathway for Afghanistan to engage with the wider world. Uzbekistan's role as a bridge to the West aligns with the Islamic Emirate's policy of regional integration, economic cooperation, and peaceful dialogue.

For Afghanistan, this partnership offers opportunities to expand trade, attract investment, and strengthen its position as a central player in regional connectivity.

By working closely with Uzbekistan and other Central Asian countries, Afghanistan can ensure that its economic voice is heard globally, advancing both national prosperity and regional stability.

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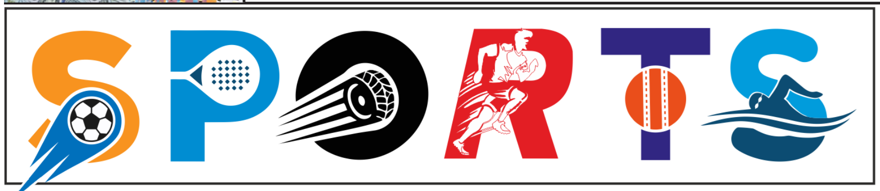


Afghan Athletes Win Six Medals at South Asian Bodybuilding Championship

KABUL: Afghan athletes have achieved notable success at the 16th South Asian Bodybuilding Championship, securing a total of six medals in various competitive categories. The performance has been described as a significant achievement for Afghan sports on the regional stage, the General Directorate of the National Olympic, Physical Education and Sports said in a statement on Friday.

The Afghan team secured two gold medals, three silver medals, and one bronze medal during the championship, the statement said.

"The athletes demonstrated strong discipline, preparation, and competitive spirit against participants from several South Asian countries. Their performance was praised as a reflection of growing talent in Afghan bodybuilding and sports development," the statement said.

Sports authorities stated that such achievements help improve Afghanistan's international sporting reputation and inspire young athletes across the country.

They also emphasized continued support for athletes competing in regional and international events.

The success has been welcomed by sports fans and officials, who view it as a positive sign of progress in Afghanistan's sporting sector despite ongoing challenges.

The Kabul Times

Young Afghan Traveller Completes Motorcycle Journey Across All 34 Provinces

KABUL: A young Afghan traveller, Syed Sajad, has successfully completed an extensive motorcycle journey through all 34 provinces of the country, concluding his trip in Logar province.

The journey also included visits to more than 80 districts across the country, RTA Sport reported on Friday. Sajad, originally from Ghazni province and currently residing in Herat, said the journey took approximately six months to complete.

According to him, His main objective was to explore Afghanistan's cultural diversity, traditions, and social values while documenting and sharing his experiences.

Throughout his travels, he visited remote and urban areas across Afghanistan, engaging with local communities and experiencing regional customs firsthand.

He emphasized that the journey allowed him to better understand the country's ethnic diversity and cultural richness.

While speaking in Logar province, Sajad highlighted that the prevailing security situation enabled him to travel freely and safely across all provinces and numerous districts.

He described this as a key factor that made the extensive journey possible.

During his visit to Logar, including districts such as Charkh and Khoshi, he expressed admiration for the province's natural beauty and the hospitality of its people. Local officials, including the Director of Information and Culture of Logar, Mawlavi Thawab Jan Islamyar, praised the young traveller's efforts and noted that improved security conditions now allow both domestic and international tourists to explore Afghanistan's natural landscapes, historical sites, and cultural heritage more freely. **The Kabul Times**

Spain, Portugal, and Switzerland Advance to FIFA World Cup Round of 16

KABUL: Spain, Portugal, and Switzerland have officially booked their places in the FIFA World Cup Round of 16 following strong performances in their respective Round of 32 matches.

The three European sides delivered confident displays to secure progression to the next stage of the tournament.

Spain produced one of the most dominant performances of the round, defeating Austria 3–0 in a one-sided encounter. Mikel Oyarzabal was the standout performer, scoring twice, while Pedro Porro added a third goal as Spain maintained full control of the match from start to finish. Their disciplined structure and attacking efficiency ensured a comfortable victory.

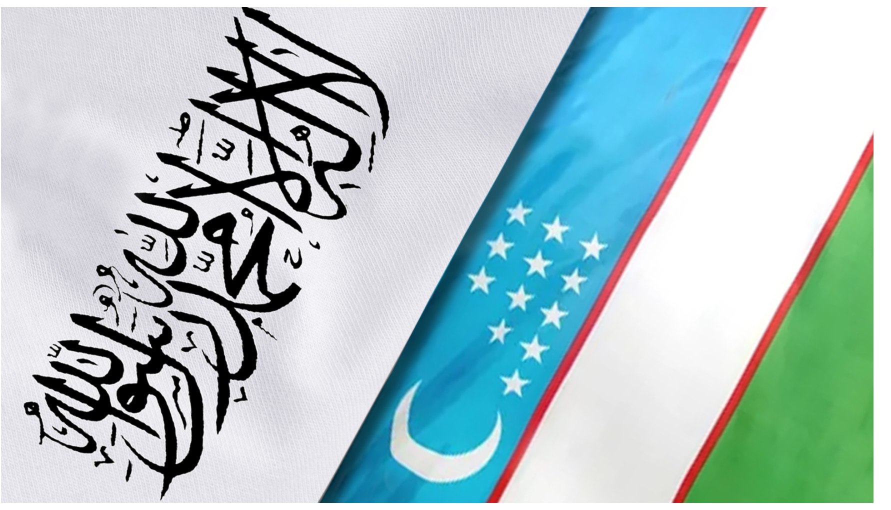
Portugal faced a far more competitive challenge against Croatia in a tightly contested match. Cristiano Ronaldo opened the scoring from the penalty spot, keeping Portugal in contention during a high-pressure encounter. However, Croatia continued to push forward, forcing a closely balanced contest throughout the game.

The decisive moment came in stoppage time when Gonçalo Ramos scored a dramatic late winner, sealing a 2–1 victory for Portugal and securing their qualification to the Round of 16. The result highlighted Portugal's resilience and ability to perform under pressure in crucial moments. Switzerland also confirmed their place in the next round with a solid 2–0 win over Algeria. Breel Embolo and Dan Ndoye each found the net, delivering a composed and efficient performance that ensured safe passage into the knockout stage.

Looking ahead, Spain will now face Portugal in a highly anticipated Round of 16 clash, while Switzerland is set to meet the winner of the Colombia–Ghana fixture, promising further excitement in the tournament.

The Kabul Times

Kabul, Tashkent Hold Talks on Research Cooperation



KABUL: A delegation from Afghanistan's Strategic Studies Center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has visited Kazakhstan to strengthen academic and research cooperation between the two countries.

During the visit, the Afghan delegation held discussions with officials and specialists from prominent Kazakh research centers, the ministry said in a statement the other day. The meetings focused on academic exchange, policy research, and institutional collaboration, the statement said.

According to the statement, both sides emphasized the importance of developing long-term scientific cooperation and strengthening intellectual ties between research institutions in Afghanistan and Kazakhstan.

The Afghan delegation highlighted the need for continued dialogue on regional studies, policy analysis, and shared research initiatives that can benefit both countries.

The two sides described the visit as an important step toward building stronger academic partnerships and enhancing mutual understanding in strategic research fields.

The Kabul Times

Beradar, Iranian President Discusses...

From P1

Beradar also reaffirmed that the Islamic Emirate's stance on external attacks against Iran, including those attributed to the United States and Israel, has been clear and consistent, describing such actions as unlawful and condemning them.

President Masoud Pezeshkian emphasized the importance of close and friendly relations between the two neighboring nations.

He stated that both governments should take advantage of existing opportunities to serve the interests of their peoples.

The Iranian president further described expanding relations with Afghanistan as a key priority of his administration and stressed that both sides should utilize all available capacities to strengthen cooperation and regional stability.

It is worth noting that a senior delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar and Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi visited Iran to attend the funeral ceremonies of Iran's former Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

The Kabul Times

Heat Waves May Accelerate the...

From P3

they are exposed to danger and challenges from time to time. We hope that the Islamic Emirate, particularly the MoPH and other relevant –health organizations will pay special attention to this area and help the nation out of this quagmire. Along with the government's efforts, the cooperation of the people is also of particular importance. Maintaining environmental cleanliness, using safe drinking water, preventing the accumulation of garbage, and paying attention to health recommendations can play an important role in reducing monsoon diseases. The more public awareness in this area increases, the more society will be protected from the harm caused by extreme heat and the spread of diseases.

Greenhouse Farming Helps Overcome...

From P3

Some experts say that agricultural products from Uruzgan have better quality compared to foreign products, and according to them, imported products are of low quality and can cause health problems for people.

A specialist in agriculture and university lecturer in the field, Assistant Professor Abdul Shakoor Karimi, said:

"When vegetables are imported into Afghanistan from Iran or other countries, they also bring some diseases with them.

But when we have our own greenhouses here, we are free from such problems."

Local officials say that government-built greenhouses have helped meet the province's needs on the one hand, and on the other hand have improved the economic situation of farmers. The spokesperson for the Department of Agriculture, Mawlawi Abdul Mannan Farooqi, said that efforts will be made to build more greenhouses in the province.

He also urged people to build greenhouses at their own expense and bring positive changes to their economic situation.

Farooqi said, "In various areas, these greenhouses have been built.

Farmers earn good income from them every day and are very satisfied.

We are trying to make these greenhouses even more active."

Greenhouses are an important source of sustainable income and job opportunities for farmers.

Through these greenhouses, not only is the economic situation of farmers improved, but other agricultural sectors are also strengthened, and market prices are regulated.

Urban Sanitation: A Silent Crisis and a Growing...

From P2

systems, wastewater treatment facilities, and solid waste management systems.

If fully implemented as planned, it could become a model for future urban development across the country.

This initiative reflects an important shift from unplanned urban growth to structured and sustainable city development.

It offers a clear vision of how Afghan cities can be transformed into healthier and more livable environments through proper engineering and planning.

Improving urban sanitation more broadly will require investment in sewer networks, decentralized wastewater treatment systems, and properly designed septic systems.

In addition, affordable technologies such as constructed wetlands and small-scale treatment plants can provide practical solutions for many growing urban areas. Public awareness is also essential.

Simple hygiene practices such as handwashing, safe water storage, and proper waste disposal can significantly reduce disease transmission when combined with improved infrastructure.

Government institutions, municipalities, ministry of urban development and housing and other development partners all have important roles to play in strengthening urban sanitation systems. Coordinated planning, proper regulation, and long-term investment are essential for sustainable progress.

In conclusion, urban sanitation in Afghanistan remains a serious public health challenge, but it is also an area of real opportunity.

With ongoing developments like Kabul New City and increasing attention to modern infrastructure systems, there is strong hope that Afghan cities will move toward a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future.